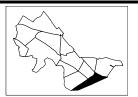
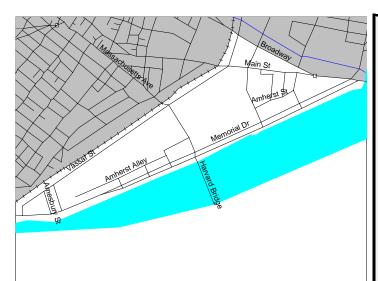
## NEIGHBORHOOD 2

# M.I.T. AREA





**BOUNDARIES:** bounded by Main Street, Broadway, the B&A Railroad, and the Charles River

**POPULATION:** 5,486 residents

794 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:** 

\$26,397

Neighborhood #2 is encompassed within the patrol boundaries of Car 1 and Car 3 (2 officer cars). M.I.T. has its own police force that patrols this area.

### COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 1999 - 2003

CRIME	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Housebreaks	2	2	0	0	1
Street Robbery	1	2	4	0	6
Auto Theft	34	31	17	9	12
Larceny from MVs	28	27	28	15	28
Malicious Destruction	12	22	11	10	16
Drug Arrests	7	6	2	4	1

#### **2003** YEAR END REVIEW

• There was one housebreak in the MIT area reported to Cambridge police in April; police arrested a man for trespassing in an MIT dormitory at approximately 4:30pm on a Saturday. •There were six street robberies; three of them occurred at an ATM on Main and Wadsworth Streets on a Wednesday or Thursday, where the perpetrator approached the victim in the ATM and demanded money. A knife was used, threatened, or implied in two of the ATM incidents and a gun was implied in the third. In November, a suspect was arrested and linked to four ATM robberies in Kendall Square and the robbery of a convenience store in East Cambridge. •There were 12 auto thefts reported in 2003; so far, 5 have been recovered. Eight of the reported 12 thefts were from the Vassar Street area, a common hotspot over the years for auto thefts. •There was a rise in larcenies from motor vehicles, and as with auto thefts, the majority of those occurred in the area of Vassar Street. Larcenies were spread throughout the year, but were more frequent in June and November. Radios or stereos were commonly targeted, as well as laptops, purses and backpacks that were left in view inside the vehicles. •All of the malicious destruction incidents in this neighborhood targeted motor vehicles; most victims had their windows smashed or cars keyed. The incidents were generally spread throughout the year, but four of the incidents on Vassar Street occurred in one night in January. •The one drug arrest in this area in 2003 occurred following surveillance by the Cambridge Special Investigations Unit based on a tip regarding drug dealing in the area.

ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR M.I.T. AREA TARGET CRIMES							
Crime	1981-1990	Rank '81-'90*	1991-2002	Rank '91-'02*	Rank 2003*		
Housebreaks	19	11	3	13	13		
Street Robbery	11	10	5	11	10		
Auto Theft	102	7	48	6	11		
Larceny from MVs	56	10	45	10	11		
Malicious Destruction	47	10	25	12	12		

<sup>\*</sup>Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest.

#### **NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS**

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology is the dominant venue in the MIT Neighborhood given that M.I.T. property envelops most of the neighborhood. Its large student population—many of whom are foreign—is alluring to local criminals, who often consider students unsuspecting prey.

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology has its own police force, which reports its own crime statistics to the Uniform Crime Reporting system. Statistics contained in this profile—and in the rest of the report—do not include crimes on M.I.T. property except for arrests and incidents in which Cambridge Police Officers participated.

- The large number of automobiles parked each day on Vassar Street, Ames Street, Amherst Street, and at
  the Hyatt Regency Hotel have traditionally accounted for high numbers of auto theft and larcenies from
  motor vehicles.
- Street robbery patterns have sometimes emerged at the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Vassar Street, and outside the Bank Boston ATM on Main Street. These are often predatory, targeting college students that are walking in the areas late at night. Over the course of 20 years, however, M.I.T. has maintained a street robbery level well below the other neighborhoods.
- Bicycles parked at racks on sidewalks all around M.I.T. have been targeted by thieves in large numbers.
   M.I.T. and Cambridge Police make several arrests per year for larcenies of bicycles.

